UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MUSIC

13.14
SEASON OF EVENTS

Thursday, April 3, 2014
12:10 pm. Walter Hall

THURSDAYS AT NOON
High and Lo!

Lorna MacDonald, soprano
David Murray, double bass
Simon Docking, piano

PROGRAM

Sonata in A minor — **Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)**
Movement 1. Allegro agitato
Movement 3. Allegro molto e marcato

***Der Stern* Op. 69, no.1** — **Richard Strauss (1864-1949)**

***Einerlei* Op. 69, no.3**

***Schlechtes Wetter* Op. 69, no.5**

The Last Contrabass in Las Vegas — **Eugene Kurtz (1923 –2006)**

Capriccio di bravura — **Giovanni Bottesini (1821 –1889)**

Biographies

Soprano **LORNA MACDONALD** is Professor of Voice and the Lois Marshall Chair in Voice Studies at the University of Toronto. Her singing won awards that took her to New York's Metropolitan Opera, Graz Stephaniensaal, Los Angeles' Disney Hall, and to Ghana for African singing and drumming. "The silvery ring of her voice and the alert musical control of her technique were the kind to send chills down the spine" (*Halifax Herald*). Lorna has performed and given master classes across Canada and the US, in Austria, Germany, France, Taiwan, the Republic of China, Russia, Africa, Wales, Ireland, England, and Bermuda. Having premièred up to 45 new compositions, many written for her, she has also created and produced several multi-media performance works - *Marrying Mozart*, *Lois Marshall in Russia* and the *Group of Seven*. Her current project, slated for performance in 2015, is based on the lives of Alexander Graham Bell and his wife Mabel Hubbard at Beinn Bhreagh, NS. Recent operatic roles include Mozart's *Zaide* and *Konstanze*, and Glinka's *Antonida*, and numerous concert performances from Victoria to Cape Breton.

Her many award-winning students are found in opera, concert, broadway, and pop music. She encourages singers to honour their talent and trust their individual path. An acknowledged expert in vocal health and pedagogy, her "Cochlear Implant Singing Study", was designed to aid the speech of hearing impaired and cochlear implanted adolescents through singing. This collaborative work was presented in Philadelphia, Athens, Chicago, Vancouver, and Toronto, and was cited by former President David Naylor, "One needs excellence in research and scholarship across disciplines because no one can predict how disciplines will collide. So much of the best innovation is convergent. Lorna MacDonald teaches performance, opera, and vocal pedagogy in U of T's Faculty of Music – a very strong program, internationally renowned. At the same time, Professor MacDonald collaborates with the clinicians at the Hospital for Sick Children on cochlear implants, laryngology, speech-language pathology, and pediatric voice and hearing care." (*Globe & Mail*) Recipient of an OCUFA award for "excellence and outstanding contributions to university teaching", MacDonald continues to create through performance, pedagogy and science. She will perform at Toronto's Arts and Letters Club on April 9, and speak about her research at the Toronto Reference Library on April 11th at 6:30 pm; She performs in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* in Halifax in May followed by a recital with Simon Docking in June.

DAVID MURRAY has an international reputation as a solo bassist and teacher. He is currently Professor of Bass at Butler University in Indianapolis and Principal Bassist of the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra. He also plays as Principal Bassist with Sinfonia da Camera in Urbana, Illinois, and at the Bear Valley Music Festival in northern California. Before coming to Indianapolis, David was Instructor of Bass at West Texas A&M University and principal with the Amarillo Symphony. He has been a member of the Dallas Chamber Orchestra and also toured twice with the Irish Chamber Orchestra.

David's first private teacher was bass virtuoso Gary Karr, with whom he studied in high-school in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and at the Hartt Music School, University of Hartford, in Connecticut. Summers were spent at Tanglewood and the Aspen Music Festival, where he worked with Stuart Sankey. At Aspen, he won the 1981 concerto competition. In Los Angeles in1988 he won the International Society of Bassists (ISB) Solo Competition, the first prize being a solo debut at Carnegie Hall. David has made solo appearances, both in recital and with orchestra, and given clinics and masterclasses throughout the United States, his native Canada, and in South Korea, Brazil, Israel, Scotland, France, Spain, Portugal, Denmark, Germany, and Holland. He has performed at several summer chamber music festivals including Scotia Festival, Killington, and Cape May. In June, 2001, David hosted the ISB convention at Butler University for 800 bassists from 27 countries and is currently a Past-President of the ISB. He has been published in the ISB journal, Double Bassist magazine, the Suzuki Association of America journal, and American String Teachers journal. He has recorded three solo CD's (most recently in 2012), a duo CD with bassist Diana Gannett, is a founding member of the bass quartet Bad Boys of Bass with whom he released a CD in 2006, and he released a DVD of theater music in the spring of 2003.

"…to hear David Murray play it, the string bass is a vastly and unjustly neglected instrument. Murray…became a prime spokesman for the instrument." (*Denver Post*)

"…Murray is a top-notch player." (*Indianapolis Star*)

One of Atlantic Canada's most visible musicians, Australian-born pianist **SIMON DOCKING** has performed both as a soloist and chamber musician throughout North America, as well as in Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia and Europe.

Simon has appeared as a soloist for Toronto's Soundstreams, the Winnipeg New Music Festival, the Scotia Festival of Music, Australia's Aurora Festival, the new music group Stroma in New Zealand, the MATA Festival in New York, and with the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra, the Toronto Philharmonia and the Toronto Wind Orchestra. His 2008 performance of Messiaen's epic cycle *Catalogue d'Oiseaux* at the Scotia Festival was described in the *Chronicle Herald* as "Herculean…a tour de force".

Simon has often been heard on CBC Radio Two's Two New Hours, The Signal, and Concerts on Demand. Internationally his performances have been broadcast on ABC Classic FM (Australia), Swedish Radio, and Radio New Zealand.

Active as a chamber musician, Simon has been a founding member of several ensembles, including the Toronto-based group Toca Loca, with pianist Gregory Oh and percussionist Aiyun Huang. Toca Loca has been presented by nearly every new music series in Canada from St John's to Vancouver, as well as appearances in New York, California and Berlin. They recently released two CDs: *P*P* (2009) and *SHED* (2010).

Simon studied piano in Australia with Ransford Elsley, and holds a doctorate in piano performance from SUNY Stony Brook, where he worked with Gilbert Kalish, and upon graduation was awarded New York State's Thayer Fellowship for the Arts. In October 2011 Simon received an Established Artist Recognition Award from the province of Nova Scotia.

Texts and Translations

Strauss: *Der Stern* Op. 69, no.1
Text: Achim von Arnem

Ich sehe ihn wieder den lieblichen Stern;
er winket hernieder, er nahte mir gern;
er wärmet und funkelt, je näher er kömmt,
die andern verdunkelt, die Herzen beklemmt.

Die Haare im Fliegen er eilet mir zu,
das Volk träumt von Siegen, ich träume von Ruh.
Die andern sich deuten die Zukunft daraus,
vergangene Zeiten mir leuchten ins Haus.

Strauss: The Star
English translation: Richard Stokes (2005)

I see it again the beautiful star;
It beckons to me, and would like to draw near;
It warms and it glitters, the closer it comes,
It dims the others, oppresses hearts.

With flowing mane it hurries towards me,
The people dream of victory, I dream of peace,
From it the others predict the future,
For me it merely illumines the past.

Strauss: *Einerlei* Op. 69, no. 3
Text: Achim von Arnim

Ihr Mund ist stets derselbe,
sein Kuß mir immer neu,
ihr Auge noch dasselbe,
sein freier Blick mir treu;

O du liebes Einerlei,
wie wird aus dir so mancherlei!

Strauss: One and the Same
English translation: George Bird and Richard Stokes (1976)

Her mouth is the same always,
its kiss is ever new,
still the same her eyes are,
their frank gaze true to me;

O you sweet one-and-the-same,
the diversity that comes of you!

Strauss: *Das ist ein schlechtes Wetter* Op. 69, no. 5
Text: Heinrich Heine

Das ist ein schlechtes Wetter,
Es regnet und stürmt und schneit;
Ich sitze am Fenster und schaue
Hinaus in die Dunkelheit.

Da schimmert ein einsames Lichtchen,
Das wandelt langsam fort;
Ein Mütterchen mit dem Laternchen
Wankt über die Straße dort.

Ich glaube, Mehl und Eier
Und Butter kaufte sie ein;
Sie will einen Kuchen backen
Fürs große Töchterlein.

Die liegt zu Hause im Lehnstuhl
Und blinzelt schläfrig ins Licht;
Die goldnen Locken wallen
Über das süße Gesicht.

Strauss: Dreadful Weather
English translation: George Bird and Richard Stokes (1976)

Dreadful weather,
rain and storm and snow;
I sit at the window and gaze
out at the dark.

There a lonely light glimmers
and slowly moves away:
a mother with her lantern
unsteadily crosses the street.

Flour and eggs, I think,
she's bought, and butter;
a cake she is going to bake
for her great big daughter,

who lies at home in an easy chair
blinking sleepily at the light;
her golden ringlets tumbling
over her sweet face.